# 62.09

# 1956

# **OUR NEW INTRODUCTIONS**



LAS LAURELES

LAS LAURELES — Semi-cactus. Lively salmon or coral pink lightly suffused with pale gold. We are very happy to be able to offer this season a very large pink semi-cactus. Because of its free blooming habit on long strong stems and good keeping qualities it will be very useful for exhibiting in quantity. In the garden it was among the most impressive we grow and we grow almost all of the best varieties from far and near. A conservative estimate of the size of the bloom is about 12x7. A true semi-cactus of excellent formation as you will note from the accompanying

picture. It performed well for Mr. Lynn B. Dudley in Eastern trials and is included in his 1956 Roll of Honor in Flower Grower.

Strong Divisions — \$15.00 Net.



ROSARIO

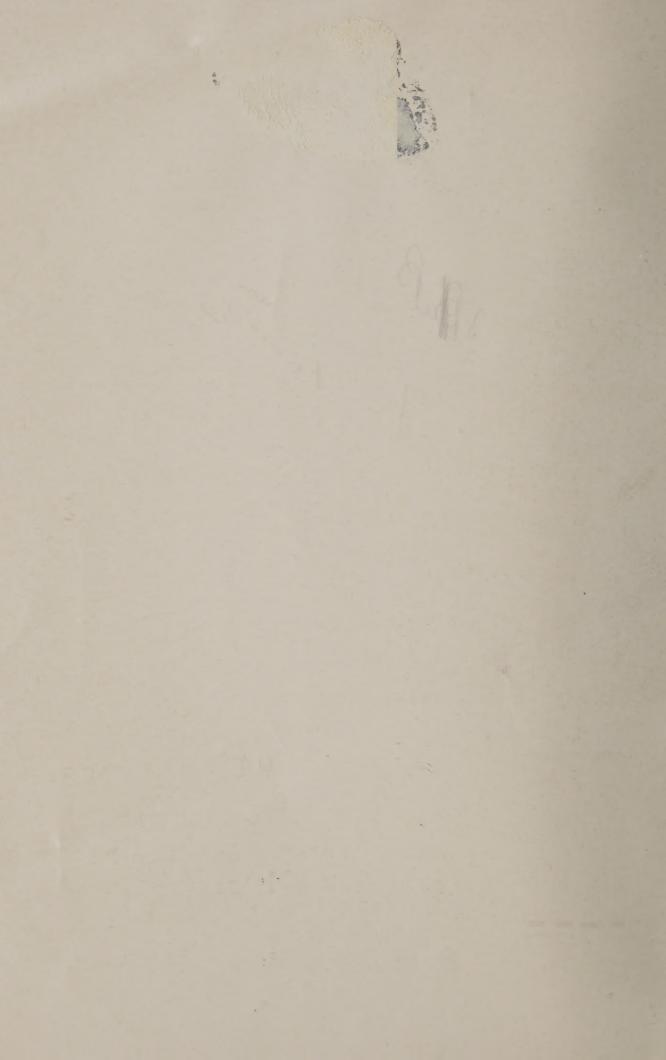
ROSARIO — Formal Decorative. Clear true lavender throughout the flower but shading to white at the base of the petals. Good lavender dahlias in recent years have been uncommon and this one is large, well formed and has good growing habits. It is definitely formal and its classification will not be questioned. Both of our introductions this year are from the seedling patch of E. H. Magnuson, our friend and helper for many years, who has been very ill but is now, we are glad to report, well on the way to recovery.

Strong Divisions — \$15.00 Net.

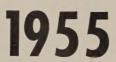
N.B. Our listings this year differ so little from those of 1955 that we are issuing only a supplement describing our new introductions this time.

# BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

4309 El Camino Real Palo Alto, California







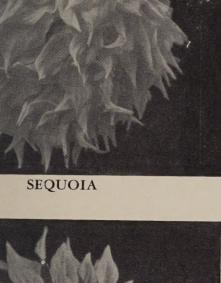
# Giant BALLAY Dahlias



# BALLAY

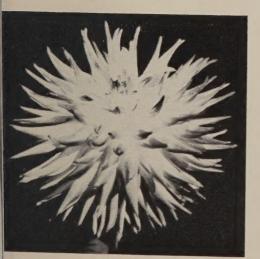
Dahlia Gardens

4309 El Camino Real
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA
U. S. A.





YOSEMITE



TORCH



## THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CATALOGUE

# BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

# 4309 El Camino Real PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

PLEASE NOTE—When ordering please write NAME and ADDRESS plainly, also state date delivery is desired. It is better not to have roots delivered until you are ready to use them. As the stock of some varieties is limited and the demand this year is heavy, it is well to name some second choices. We do not substitute without permission. All shipments prior to April 1st, except on the Pacific Coast, are sent by Express Collect to insure against freezing. We do not sell green plants. Prices listed are for strong field-grown root divisions. Where air mail delivery is requested, unless remittance includes the extra charge for this service, request will not be complied with.

**TERMS**—CASH WITH ORDER or before date of shipment. On retail orders for California delivery 3% Sales Tax should be added to the amount to comply with the Sales Tax Law. We guarantee that all roots sent are true to name and in good growing condition, but beyond this assume no responsibility. All orders are accepted with this provision.

### EXPLANATION OF TYPES—

Informal Decorative (I.D.). Double flowers, full to the center, usually long irregular petals. Formal Decorative (F.D.). Double flowers, full to the center, usually with broad flat petals.

Cactus (C.). Double flowers, full to the center, with long, narrow, pointed petals, incurved, recurved or straight, and rolled at least half their length.

Semi-Cactus (S.C.). Double flowers, full to the center, with coarse, twisted petals, usually somewhat incurved, and rolled ordinarily less than half their length.



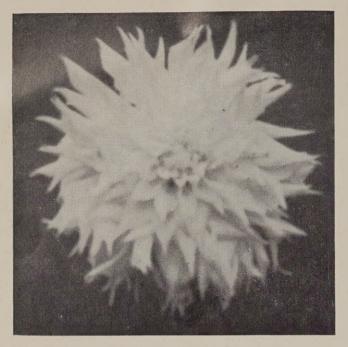
## **OUR NEW INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1955**

**SEQUOIA**—Informal Decorative. Primrose yellow. This year we are offering a new dahlia that is definitely on the superlative side. It is probably as large as any dahlia in existence and without faults; similar in many respects to Croyden Masterpiece except color. Picture on front cover is that of a 15-inch bloom. Note great wealth of petalage. The deep compact center holds until bloom is fully matured and weather conditions do not mar the long-lasting flower. Must be seen to be appreciated and our visitors were not lacking in enthusiasm. We think it is the finest dahlia in the Gaylord series since Frieda Gaylord. Color is uncommon, stem perfect and habit of growth all that can be expected. As we have often stated before, we do not exaggerate when introducing a new variety: Received a Certificate of Merit at the new A.D.S. California Trial Gardens but was not in bloom in time to be entered in our early San Francisco show.

Strong Divisions \$15.00 Net

YOSEMITE—Informal Decorative. Shadings of apricot, deepening at center, with a metallic lustre over all that makes it distinctive. This flower has about as much diameter as the one described above, but formation is different with broader petals, and there is not as much depth. It is a prolific bloomer and so, as can be imagined, is very spectacular in the garden. Illustration on front cover gives a good idea of its attractive appearance. We specialize in dahlias of giant size and our introductions this year are not lacking the necessary requirements. Do not misunderstand us, however. We fully realize size is not enough if other qualities are lacking. We await with great interest the reaction of our customers who have grown our new varieties through many years. Strong Divisions

**DAHLIA SEEDS**—Hand pollenized dahlia seeds from the largest and best varieties. Mixed seed only \$10.00 per 100 Net





GAYLORD SPECIAL

TAHOE

### OTHER DAHLIAS OF OUR OWN INTRODUCTION

ALCAZAR—S.C. Deep fuchsia red or bright reddish purple. It belongs in the purple class according to the color chart, and the formation of the flower is frequently very close to the true cactus type. A nice large dahlia outstanding as to beauty and distinctiveness that blooms early and freely on the best of stems

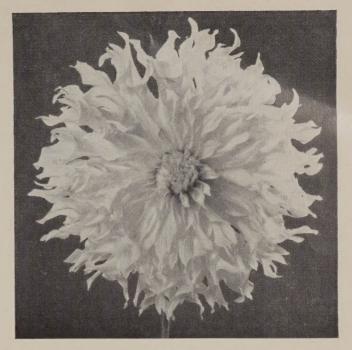
\$2.50

ARGUELLO—I.C. Deep cherry red with silvery reverse, velvet-like texture. This beautifully colored dahlia is a large true type cactus with petals rolled their entire length. Ideal growing plant with extra strong straight stems. A 1953 introduction that has already proven its worth in many places. One of the finest of recent years

**AZURA**—I.D. Rosy lilac with a bluish-violet sheen. A large deep flower which has won as largest flower in the show with blooms measuring 12 to 14 inches. Plant is tall and strong and the blooms have a distinctive and interesting formation. Old but good. \$1.50

**BALLAY ROUGE**—I.C. Bright clear red. Fine petalled true type cactus in a very popular color. Size is large for a cactus, excellent form, perfect stems..........\$2.00





ARGUELLO

CAPISTRANO

**DEE CEE**—I.D. Maize yellow to Indian yellow. 12 to 14 inch giant informal decorative. It is early to bloom, keeps well and produces many fine exhibition flowers. Likes warm weather when it will grow to perfection. New 1952.......\$5.00

DOROTHY LAMOUR—Str. Cac. True orange. A dahlia of great charm because of its rare color and useful qualities. This is a distinctive variety that is much in demand \$2.00





DEE CEE

MARK TWAIN



ROYAL PACIFIC

GOVERNOR WARREN

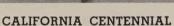
**GOVERNOR WARREN**—I.D. Golden salmon shading deeper at the center. A full, deep, broad petalled bloom well placed on a long rugged stem. This giant in the autumn color class possesses real beauty as well as great size...\$2.50

**KING OF THE WHITES**—I.D. Clear glistening white. This striking new white is exactly what the name implies. Very large and full with fine stems and a sturdy plant. Is not soiled by heat or moisture. We have received excellent reports from many places.

\$2.50

MAESTRO—S.C. Purple cerise. A richly-colored large flower of remarkable substance and most pleasing appearance. All good qualities and highly recommended \$1.50







CALIFORNIA PAGEANT

ROYAL PACIFIC—F.D. Violet purple of the blue tone. A true formal that is outstanding because of its rare and distinctive coloring. Long, strong stems hold the flowers perfectly above the dark ornamental foliage. A continuous performer. Large \$2.50

**SAVINA**—I.C. Bright salmon shading to golden yellow. A husky growing plant producing nice large cactus blooms on good stems. Color is very pleasing and strikes the popular fancy. Well worthwhile if you are fond of cactus type

\$2.50





FRIEDA GAYLORD

FORTY-NINER

000

# GOOD VARIETIES OF OTHER GROWERS

(Name in parenthesis is that of the introducer. In the case of foreign dahlias the name of the country is given.)

ARTHUR GODFREY—F.D. (Dahliadel.) Oriental red with bronze shadings. Outstanding bloom of great size. Strong grower that blooms early. One of the best \$2,50
ADOLPH MAYER—I.D. (Holland.) Maroon. Very dark medium sized flower.  Strong free branching plant and a prolific bloomer
AGLOW—I.D. (Dahliadel.) Soft apricot suffused light red on center of each petal. Free blooming variety on nice long stems. Good grower
AMOS KIRBY—I.D. (Johnson.) Rich reddish purple. Very large free blooming variety on stiff slender stems. Strong plant with good foliage
ATOMIC YELLOW—S.C. (Ruschmohr.) Canary yellow. Largest yellow semicactus. Truly massive blooms on strong stems. Good grower. No dahlia fan passes this one by
<b>ALL AMERICAN</b> —S.C. (Salem.) Mulberry rose. A true semi-cactus of good form, unusual color and large size. Very desirable for all purposes
AUTUMN BLAZE—I.D. (Johnson.) Brownish red suffused gold especially at the tips of the petals. One of the largest and best. Blooms freely on a plant of medium height





NINA WARREN

HIGHLANDER

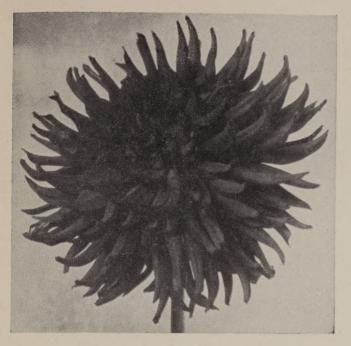
AXFORD TRIUMPH—I.D. (Australia.) Bronze and tan. A variety of large size that is a robust grower with excellent habits
<b>B. C.</b> —(Canada.) Creamy pink. Nice large blooms on good strong plant. Color is uncommon
BETTE DAVIS—S.C. (Cordes.) Lavender rose. Medium sized flower that is very pleasing and useful. Prolific bloomer
BETTY STAKER—I.D. (Australia.) Dull gold with rose shadings. A massive flower and a beautiful color. Very impressive in the garden\$2.00
BILL'S GOLD—I.D. (Australia.) Bright old gold. One of the best of its color and an all-around fine dahlia. Very large, good grower, good stems\$2.00
BLACKBIRD—St.C. (Holland.) Very dark red, almost black. Medium size, free bloomer, very long straight stem, fine for cutting
<b>BLACK MONARCH</b> —I.D. (Rocky River.) Very dark red. Strong grower and free bloomer. Large and interesting because of its color. Improved by shading\$2.00
BLUE RIVER—I.D. (Salem.) Bluish-lavender. As near to blue as we have in dahlias. Always attracts attention. Good size
CARL G. DAHL—I.D. (Scott.) Old rose and gold. Has been a winner as largest bloom. Petals are broad and well placed and have good substance\$2.00
<b>CONQUEROR</b> —S.C. (Holland.) Clear sulphur yellow. Well-formed clean-cut flower of fairly large size and good stems. A useful and beautiful variety\$2.00
COL. LITTLE—I.D. (Ambrose.) Scarlet-orange. Very brilliant coloring. Large flower, blooms freely, stem good. Stock limited
CORNELL—I.D. (Parrella.) Deep red tipped white. A fair-sized bi-color with good markings. Good grower but not a free bloomer
COMMANDO—F.D. (Golden Rule.) Phlox purple. Vividly colored bloom, large and attractive. A formal in a different color





SAVINA CROYDEN ELITE—I.D. (Australia.) Bright yellow with a slight reddish suffusion especially at center of the flower. A fine, large dahlia of exquisite form. Strong CROYDEN MASTERPIECE—I.D. (Australia.) Light orange. One of the very largest and best. Early producer of exhibition blooms of best quality. Has won many **DAHLIAMUM**—I.D. (Chemar.) Bronze gold. Very large flower, carried on top of a strong stem that looks like a shaggy chrysanthemum \$2.00 DARCY SAINSBURY—F.D. (Australia.) White, Large, full flower that will stand the weather. Good grower \$1.00 DIXIE'S WINE DOT-I.D. (Dixie.) White ground striped and splashed wine red. Something new and good. A most unusual variegated dahlia of very large size and sturdy growth \$2.50 EDNA D.—S.C. (Rocky River.) Deep rose red. Large, well-formed bloom on long stems. Fine for exhibition \$2.50 EVENTIDE—I.D. (Bissell.) True purple. Fairly large flowers of unusual form, each petal being notched and slightly twirled. Nice plant with dark foliage......\$2.00 EL RUBIO—I.D. (Redfern.) Wine red. Very large bold flower. Plant growth extremely rugged. A late bloomer and one of the most attractive in the garden in the late fall......\$1.50 ESSIE SMITH-I.D. (Smith.) Lavender pink. Large deep flower. Strong grower with good habits \$2.00

FRANCES H.—(Patricia.) Pansy purple tipped white. Very reliable bi-color of good size. Free bloomer, good grower, popular
FRED CANNING—I.D. (England.) Bright geranium red. Large full bloom of the most pleasing shade of red that does not fade. Centers are not always of exhibition type  \$2.50
FREDA GEORGE—I.D. (Australia.) Creamy pink with shadings of rose. Delicately colored flower with excellent qualities. Nice size
<b>GALAXY</b> —I.C. (England.) Yellow striped and splashed with red. A very interesting and satisfactory cactus. Flowers are full and well formed
GAY KNIGHT—I.D. (Australia.) Bright red suffused gold. This brightly colored bloom is extra large and held straight up on a perfect stem. One of the largest from Australia \$2.00
GIANT OF BAARN—I.C. (Holland.) Crimson-red. Very useful for cutting because of its long stems and free blooming habits. Large flowers continue through a long period. Very gay color
<b>GLAMOUR</b> —I.D. (Salem.) Light purple with shadings of rose. Grows large without pampering and is a consistent winner in the shows. Color, form and habits are all good
<b>GOULBURN</b> —I.C. (Australia.) Yellow shading to apricot. A true cactus of large size. Outstanding in its class with great possibilities in the showroom\$2.50
<b>GRAF BERNADOTTE</b> —S.C. (Holland.) Pure white. Very tall growing cactus producing many nice flowers of medium size. There is not much competition in this class  \$2.50
GUNYAH GLORY—S.C. (Australia.) Royal purple. We have nothing else exactly like it in color. Big, tall-growing semi-cactus that is much admired by visitors. Outstanding \$3.50
INDIAN GIANT—I.D. (Emmons.) Reddish apricot. Very large exhibition variety. Plants are low and bushy and continue to produce fine blooms over a long period. Color is different and much admired
IVORY PRINCESS—S.C. (Ruschmohr.) Ivory white. Large, well-formed flower of an unusual shade. Strong grower with good stems
JANE LAUSCHE—S.C. (Rocky River.) Lavender tipped white. Decidedly a new combination of color and an all-around good dahlia. It was a big prize winner in its introductory year. A novelty of real merit. \$2.50
JUDITH—F.D. (Anderson.) Deep purple edged white. Very popular and satisfactory California variety. The plant of medium height blooms freely and flowers are very large. Easterners should try this one
<b>KELVIN</b> —I.D. (Australia.) Rosy pink with a suggestion of yellow. Exceptionally fine variety of great size and all good qualities. Continues to produce large perfect blooms for months. One of the truly great dahlias
KEMP'S PURPLE TRIUMPH—I.D. Deep purple. Good sized flower on plant of medium height. Good producer both as to blooms and roots.  \$2.50





ALCAZAR	NIGHTINGALE
KIDD'S CLIMAX—F.D. (Australia.) Clear l of petals. Unusual in color, large size, very	avender shading to yellow at base y desirable\$2.50
<b>KING SIZE</b> —I.C. (Johnson.) Bright red. Proof the season on long stems. Large size for a	duces many fine blooms throughout cactus
LOUISE—S.C. (Australia.) Creamy white. bles Mother's Day to some extent but has excellent growing plant	s a better stem. Large flower on an
MADONNA—I.D. (Ruschmohr.) Pure wh Blooms face upward on good but rather sho	ite. Large, strong growing white. ort stems
MAFFIE—S.C. (Johnson.) Carmine red. T extremely large and have frequently won grower	as largest in the show. Tall, open
MAJESTAT—I.D. (Germany.) Pale salmon r Full flowers with broad petals are held on l	oink. Large size in the early season. ong sturdy stems
MARION SMITH—I.D. (Australia.) Clear pictover the sturdy plant of medium height. dahlia in every way	A charming color and a first-class
MARY ELIZABETH—I.D. (Robens.) Turkey in 1953. Can be grown to great size. Perfor when the weather was inclined to be war duction that should be a standout	med best in our garden this season m. A well recommended new intro-
MONARCH OF THE EAST—I.D. (Almy.) E borne profusely on a rampant growing but	Bright golden apricot. Giant flowers

MRS. HESTER PAPE—I.D. (Rocky River.) Reddish purple. Popular introduction of rich coloring. Large, sturdy, attractive. A big winner in the shows.......\$3.50

MRS. THOMAS EDISON—I.D. (Chautauqua.) Ruby red, with silver reverse. Outstanding color effect. Flower can be grown to good size and is always a bright spot in the garden. Low grower
MURPHY'S MASTERPIECE—I.D. (Success.) Deep red. This dahlia is naturally large and can be grown to great proportions. Has been a contender in the largest class for many years. Strong grower with good stems\$2.00
NANCY C. SCHARHAG—I.D. (Sunset.) Mallow pink striped and splashed wine purple. A sport of Dixie's Wine Dot which it very much resembles in everything but color. Very reliable
OAKLEIGH CHAMPION—C. (Oakleigh.) Orange and pink with yellow shadings at base of petals. Large cactus of excellent form on strong long stems. A real pleasure to grow
OGDEN REID—I.D. (Parrella.) Old rose with slight golden suffusion. Large exhibition bloom on long slender stem. Blooms profusely\$2.00
PACIFIC ROSE—I.D. (Thompson.) Deep rose pink. Fine large variety that is popular in California and a winner at the shows. Medium height with all good growing habits \$2.50
PATRICIA SPOLLEN—I.C. (Johnson.) Medium orange. Attractive cactus bloom that exhibits well and has won many prizes in its class. Responds to good care. Much admired \$2.50
PHYLLIS KNIGHT—I.D. (Australia.) Salmon rose. Very large size. Fine color and all good qualities except that an occasional bloom may come with a coarse center. Popular
PINK GIANT—I.D. (Holland.) True pink. This is hardly a giant according to the American idea but it is large enough for all general purposes. The color is impressive and it has achieved popularity in this country
PIRATE TREASURE—I.D. (Rocky River.) Orange buff with red suffusion. Very large variety of vigorous growth. Frequent winner in Eastern shows. Distinctive \$2.50
POET'S DREAM—I.D. (Salem.) Shell pink or possibly soft apple blossom pink. Extraordinary as to color and size and of most beautiful formation. This would be one of the finest dahlias if it had a better stem
QUINN'S TIDAL WAVE—I.D. (Australia.) Canary yellow. One of the newer yellows; very pleasing and productive. Like many of the Australian dahlias it is a rugged grower and good for all purposes
REAL GLORY—F.D. (Stephenson.) Pure white. A clear glistening white of fine form and extra good substance. Good grower and free bloomer. Unsurpassed in its class
RUBY LOXTON—I.D. (Australia.) Bright rose. Large well-colored flower. Blooms early and freely on a strong vigorous plant
SALEM SUNSHINE—I.D. (Salem.) Bright yellow. Another very large yellow. Bush is low but stems are long and wiry and hold the magnificent bloom upright. Is not temperamental as to weather \$2.50

SILVER GLAMOUR—I.D. (Golden Rule.) Rosy purple with petals suffused and edged with white. Quite similar to the original Glamour in everything but color. Spectacular \$2.50
STEPHEN FOSTER—I.C. (Salem.) Golden buff suffused orange. Tall, strong plant producing many well-formed flowers of large size. A valuable addition to the cactus class
SUNBURST—F.D. (Smith.) Golden yellow. Giant blooms freely produced on a strong vigorous plant. A first-class yellow in late season
<b>SKYROCKET</b> —S.C. (Ruschmohr.) Clear vermillion red. Very brilliantly colored bloom of excellent formation. Very long stems hold the flower in good position \$2.00
SPECIAL AWARD—I.D. (Robens.) Golden apricot. Strong grower producing very large blooms on upright stems. Recommended
TOPFLIGHT—S.C. (Dozier.) Bright crimson. Fine large red that does not fade. Perfect formation. Long straight stem. Tall grower \$2.00
<b>TOPS</b> —I.D. (Dozier.) Bright yellow. A true giant in the most pleasing shade of yellow. Has good depth and is well formed. Never fails to attract attention. \$2.00
<b>TOWN TOPIC</b> —F.D. (Hulin.) Bright purple sometimes tipped white. Full, well-built flower on a long strong stem. A nice variety
TROJAN—I.D. (Salem.) Deep red with yellow reverse. Color will vary from deep red to almost orange in flowers on the same bush. All are large and well supported by good stems
VARGAS GARDNER—I.D. (England.) Creamy white shading to yellow at base of petals and lightly touched with lavender at center. A spectacular flower of enormous size. It lacks somewhat fullness of formation but not to the extent that it is a serious fault. Good grower and good producer
<b>WAKE ISLAND</b> —S.C. (Hulin.) Deep bright red. A nice large flower of most attractive coloring. Blooms freely on a strong, shapely plant
WORLD EVENT—I.D. (Dixie.) Deep rose pink. Large flower of pleasing formation held on a good straight stem. We like this dahlia very much as it grows

Become a member of The Dahlia Society of California, Mr. C. M. Kurtz, Secretary, 129 Nova Drive, Piedmont, Calif. Annual dues of \$2.00 includes interesting monthly Bulletin.

## CARE OF DAHLIAS

(in California)

Plant dahlia roots in May. Have the soil dug deep and well worked beforehand. Place a stake at each place, dig a hole deep enough so that the root can be covered 4 or 5 inches, and leave a wide basin 2 or 3 inches deep for watering. Lay roots flat, never on end. Plant 2½ to 3 feet apart. Water well as soon as planted and about once a week until plants are well above ground. Irrigate thoroughly about twice a week when plants are growing strong and blooming. If plants are topped when about a foot high it will cause them to branch and make a sturdier growth. Larger blooms and better stems may be had by disbudding. Leave large center bud and take off small side buds and sprouts above leaves for 2 or 3 joints. Use fertilizer sparingly. The time to fertilize is when plants are topped. Spray with a nicotine or other garden spray to prevent leaf pests the same as for other garden plants. Use ant poisons to keep ants from the patch. Dust with sulphur to control mildew. For a long season of bloom keep old flowers with foliage cut off and be sure to keep well watered at all times. Dahlias like an open, sunny location away from the roots of trees and shrubs. Do not dig clumps until about the first of the year, leave soil on them, and store in a dry, frost-proof shed. Cut off dry stalks, stack together and cover with old bags or something of the kind. Wash and divide carefully at planting time.

DAHLIAS AS CUT FLOWERS—It is better to cut them in the early morning or late evening. A fully matured bloom will last better than a young tender one. Removing large leaves from the stems will add to the keeping qualities. Dip the tips of the stems 2 or 3 inches deep in boiling water for a couple minutes and then place immediately in a vessel of deep cold water. Setting the flowers outside at night and giving them fresh water every day or two has been found helpful. In warm weather a piece of ice placed in the vase seems to help. On exhibition tables flowers are freshened by spraying lightly with cold water occasionally during the day. A few varieties are naturally poor keepers and flowers grown in the shade or forced so as to have too soft a growth are difficult to keep, especially in hot weather. In late years nice arrangements are being made with blooms on short stems floated in bowls or trays, which will last for a long time.